



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Meluch et al. ATTY. DOCKET NO.: ACT-5612 CON of DIV I
SERIAL NO: 09/767,558 GROUP ART UNIT: 1723
FILED: January 22, 2001 EXAMINER: A. Fortuna
INVENTION: "MELT-SPUN POLYSULFONE SEMIPERMEABLE MEMBRANES
AND METHODS FOR MAKING THE SAME"

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

S I R:

Please enter the following Response in the above-identified patent application.

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on June 20, 2001.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-8, 10-14 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b); and Claims 9 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of pending Claims 1-18 and therefore further submit that the rejections are improper for the reasons set forth below.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-8, 10-14 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. No. 5,279,739 ("Pemawansa"). The Patent Office essentially asserts that *Pemawansa* discloses each and every feature of the claimed invention as required by Claims 1-8, 10-14 and 16-18.

Of the pending claims, Claims 1, 5 and 16 are the sole independent claims. In general, Claims 1, 5 and 16 each recite a polysulfone semipermeable membrane that includes a mixture of a polysulfone compound and a solvent for the polysulfone compound wherein the polysulfone

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